7/12/72

Dear Howard,

I have on ear on the early a.m. TV news and I'm tired from having stayed up to watch thru the Calif. challenge vote. Lil is still aslpee.

While watching last night I skimmed Marion Johnson's "Preliminaty Invetory" which I got under date of 3/12. If you don't have it, by the way, you should borrow this when you are here. This is the copy of my copy returned by Lesar last week. I gave Gary and Hock copies when I got it.

After this lapse in time, I can't be sure, but I think this is one of the things I either didn't have time to read with care when I got it or didn't correctly understand when I read it.

It is not a list. It argues. And before I got it Johnson gave me an entirely distorted account of what it is in telling me, voluntarily, that it was available. He merely said that the study of Oswald's paybhiatric state was declassified. That didn't interest me.

Most of this is self-serving. Examples false arguments or propaganda: p. 4,"Mr. Craig agreed and participated fully in the investigation. This was done in fairness to the alleged assassin and his family and was agreeable to counsel for Oswald's widow." I don't think a single statement is true. P. 5: "Indexing and cross-referencing was accomplished by using extra copies of documents either in whole or in part." As you know, there was no indexing and the cross-referencing is incomplete and undependable.

I have long known of this transcript but hadn't been able to find it. I think that it will contain more than the guff of the shrinkery, that's why I've ordered it. I expect to find some staff goodies in it. Theone thing that surprises me is the presence of two members. It had been my impression that it was a staff meeting only. I knew of this from records of payments to the court reporter. It is there described as staff meeting. I do not understand why I didn t get it with the ex. sess. It was one, but not of the members.

I've had nothing from you since what was dated I think 7/1. I presume this means you are doing your own thinking. Good. Nothing new elsewhere that I've not posted you on. Don't worry about what you do, just be satisfied as best you can that it is right for you and you'll have no real trouble with it and there will be no real basis for complaint against you.

As I think about what I think of as the mess I can t think of any way of entirely eliminating the kind of discord and problem. However, I think the possibilities can be reduced if we have the understanding that anything unless otherwise indicated is for you alone. I'll send Dick whatever I want him to have copies of and will indicate it. If I don't and you think I should, please tell me. He is in touch with others and I don't trust some of them. On touchy stuff he is not sufficiently cued in. I remain in touch with Hoch and expect to be. Our rather strong disagreements of the past seem not to have imparied our trust of each other and I certainly don t consider him the federal agents Sylvia charged he is. In my last letter to him, I think of yesterday, I suggested a way of eliminating a conflict. I'd proposed it at least once before without answer. I also cautioned him against hasty action infiling a suit I think the government is trying to entice us into in order to obtain a repressive court decision on the FOI. I have several such that are, I think, better than his on that point and have stayed away, as I will unlesss Lesar agrees it is reasonably safe and will handle for me....Our regular mailman retired yesterday. At least for a while, until he learns the route, his temporary replacement will be later leaving the mail. If he does not become the permanent, this will be repeated when the new man comes. Best regards,